

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of managing resources, said method
2 comprising:
3 receiving one or more buffer variables and one or more
4 endogenous variables;
5 determining one or more exogenous variables; and
6 simulating one or more resource requirements using the
7 buffer variables, the endogenous variables, and
8 the exogenous variables.
- 1 2. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the buffer
2 variable is selected from the group consisting of a
3 buffer size, a buffer zone, and a virtual buffer.
- 1 3. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
2 selecting a simulation mode; and
3 receiving a resource plan input based on the selected
4 simulation mode.
- 1 4. The method as described in claim 3 wherein the
2 simulation mode is selected from the group consisting
3 of a research mode, a learning mode, and a decision-
4 support mode.
- 1 5. The method as described in claim 1 wherein at least
2 one of the endogenous variables is selected from the
3 group consisting of a capacity increase decision, a
4 capacity decrease decision, and a resource supply
5 source.
- 1 6. The method as described in claim 1 wherein at least
2 one of the exogenous variables is determined by
3 calculating a resource supply.

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- 1 7. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
2 generating a resource usage report that includes the
3 resource requirements in response to the
4 simulation.
- 1 8. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the
2 simulating includes performing discrete event systems
3 simulation.
- 1 9. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
2 selecting a replenishment mode, the replenishment mode
3 including a pure replenishment mode and a
4 forecast replenishment mode; and
5 including the selected replenishment mode as an input
6 to the simulating.
- 1 10. An information handling system comprising:
2 one or more processors;
3 a memory accessible by the processors;
4 one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by
5 the processors;
6 a resource management tool, the resource management
7 tool including:
8 means for receiving one or more buffer variables
9 and one or more endogenous variables;
10 means for determining one or more exogenous
11 variables; and
12 means for simulating one or more resource
13 requirements using the buffer variables, the
14 endogenous variables, and the exogenous
15 variables.

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- 1 11. The information handling system as described in claim
2 10 wherein the buffer variable is selected from the
3 group consisting of a buffer size, a buffer zone, and
4 a virtual buffer.
- 1 12. The information handling system as described in claim
2 10 further comprising:
3 means for selecting a simulation mode; and
4 means for receiving a resource plan input based on the
5 selected simulation mode.
- 1 13. The information handling system as described in claim
2 12 wherein the simulation mode is selected from the
3 group consisting of a research mode, a learning mode,
4 and a decision-support mode.
- 1 14. The information handling system as described in claim
2 10 wherein at least one of the endogenous variables is
3 selected from the group consisting of a capacity
4 increase decision, a capacity decrease decision, and a
5 resource supply source.
- 1 15. The information handling system as described in claim
2 10 wherein at least one of the exogenous variables is
3 determined by calculating a resource supply.
- 1 16. The information handling system as described in claim
2 10 further comprising:
3 means for generating a resource usage report that
4 includes the resource requirements in response to
5 the simulation.

- 1 17. The information handling system as described in claim
2 10 wherein the simulating includes performing discrete
3 event systems simulation.
- 1 18. The information handling system as described in claim
2 10 further comprising:
3 means for selecting a replenishment mode, the
4 replenishment mode including a pure replenishment
5 mode and a forecast replenishment mode; and
6 means for including the selected replenishment mode as
7 an input to the simulating.
- 1 19. A computer program product stored in a computer
2 operable media for managing resources, said computer
3 program product comprising:
4 means for receiving one or more buffer variables and
5 one or more endogenous variables;
6 means for determining one or more exogenous variables;
7 and
8 means for simulating one or more resource requirements
9 using the buffer variables, the endogenous
10 variables, and the exogenous variables.
- 1 20. The information handling system as described in claim
2 19 wherein the buffer variable is selected from the
3 group consisting of a buffer size, a buffer zone, and
4 a virtual buffer.
- 1 21. The information handling system as described in claim
2 19 further comprising:
3 means for selecting a simulation mode; and
4 means for receiving a resource plan input based on the
5 selected simulation mode.

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- 1 22. The information handling system as described in claim
2 21 wherein the simulation mode is selected from the
3 group consisting of a research mode, a learning mode,
4 and a decision-support mode.
- 1 23. The information handling system as described in claim
2 19 wherein at least one of the endogenous variables is
3 selected from the group consisting of a capacity
4 increase decision, a capacity decrease decision, and a
5 resource supply source.
- 1 24. The information handling system as described in claim
2 19 wherein at least one of the exogenous variables is
3 determined by calculating a resource supply.
- 1 25. The information handling system as described in claim
2 19 further comprising:
3 means for generating a resource usage report that
4 includes the resource requirements in response to
5 the simulation.
- 1 26. The information handling system as described in claim
2 19 wherein the simulating includes performing discrete
3 event systems simulation.
- 1 27. The information handling system as described in claim
2 19 further comprising:
3 means for selecting a replenishment mode, the
4 replenishment mode including a pure replenishment
5 mode and a forecast replenishment mode; and
6 means for including the selected replenishment mode as
7 an input to the simulating.
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